

# 1. Background and Purpose

In the fall of 2004, the State of Arizona and the Governor's Office received a Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG) from the federal Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) in the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The State Incentive Grant provides \$11.75 million over five years to reduce substance use in Arizona.

The State Incentive Grant requires a statewide needs assessment to direct funding to substance abuse-related problems in Arizona. The needs assessment must include the following:

1. Assessment of the magnitude of substance abuse and related mental health disorders in the State of Arizona
2. Assessment of risk and protective factors associated with substance abuse and related mental health disorders in the state
3. Assessment of community assets and resources
4. Identification of gaps in services and capacity
5. Assessment of readiness to act
6. Identification of priorities based on the epidemiological analyses, including the identification of target communities to implement the Strategic Prevention Framework
7. Specification of baseline data against which progress and outcomes of the Strategic Prevention Framework can be measured.

This Substance Abuse Epidemiology Profile informs the statewide needs assessment by providing data and suggesting priorities as required in the items listed above. Information on item number five, assessment of readiness to act, is not included in this report. It was decided early in the State Incentive Grant's implementation that this readiness assessment would occur once potential priority communities were identified. Further, because this profile utilizes state-level (and sometimes sub-state level) substance use data, it would be inappropriate to examine the readiness of individual communities to act on their substance use problems without first having data at the individual community level.